

Greenkeeper's  
Landscapes

Where Reliable Service is  
ALWAYS in Season

As promised in this issue "The Real Appalachian Experi-

# The Green Resource

Volume 4 Issue 11

November 2003

Greetings from Randal

## Freeze Warnings Are Coming!

*Protect your plants from  
freeze damage!*

I see from the forecast for the last week of October that it is likely that we will have a killing freeze soon. Now is the time to protect your tropicals if they are still outside and exposed to the weather.

It is also time to protect your perennials from adverse damage by **watering once per week.** Plants without adequate moisture going into a hard freeze will suffer damage much sooner than those that do have moisture.

**Help your plants stay alive this winter by giving them a drink every week.**

May you find yourself over-joyed with thankfulness this year.

Randal

Randal Wise  
Founder & President

greenkeeperslandscapes.com

## *A Walk On The Appalachian Trail -Through the Eyes of a Landscaper*

Hot Springs, NC

Imagine if you will, traveling for two days to reach a destination that will plunge you into one of the **world's greatest hardwood forests**— the expansive relic of the richest, most diversified sweep of woodland ever to grace the temperate world. Among this vast forest that touches nearly all of the states in the eastern US is a winding 12-18" trail that traverses over 2,200 miles. Here are more than 350 mountain peaks over 5,000' on the Appalachian Trail and perhaps a thousand more in the area. The views (when it's possible to see through the trees) are spectacular. It seems that the mountain ranges will go on forever.

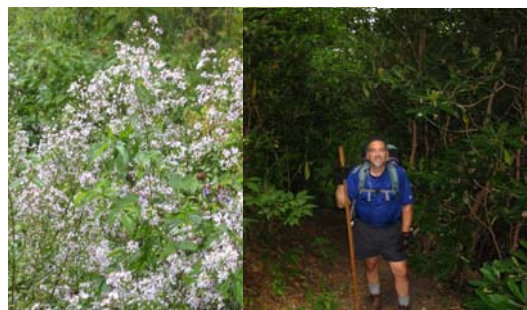
I was fortunate to be able to join a group of seasoned hikers for my first ever backpacking experience in the woods. Dan Stone, Larry Ray and Leroy Wise (my father) all have at least 5 years of backpacking experience, most of which includes the southern terminus of the AT through The Great Smoky Mountains and Clingman's Dome (the highest peak at 6,700'). Without the guidance of these experienced men, I would not have been able to prepare for what turned out to be an athletic endeavor which required us to carry 40# on our backs up and down these beautiful mountains.

You might be able to imagine being **totally surrounded** by the great forest, and **everywhere you look** you only see trees and green mountains. Now remember that you are a landscaper with a life long love of plants of all kinds; a natural curiosity to inspect and observe your surroundings even down to the near microscopic details that are found on Fern stems. **For me this experience became overwhelming at times.** There were times that it seemed that my heart would burst with joy as I was plunged into this formidable creation that was untouched by human

hands. This is God's creation! And what beauty He displays here! I found myself in awe, singing to myself much of the time. **Oh, that I could take you with me to see this great and vast landscape!**

I then realized that I was seeing plants I knew in their native habitat. More fascinating is the fact that we have planted many of these species in your landscapes. I was shocked and surprised! I saw **Rhododendrons along the trail that were 15-20' tall**, Flame Azaleas, Aster, Blackeyed Susan, Perennial Geraniums, Camellia, Orchid, Giant Phlox, Solomon's Seal, Viola, Trillium, Wood Anemone, Lobelia, Magnolia, Creeping Phlox, Virginia Creeper, Mountain Laurel, Golden Rod, 18 types of Lily, Holly, Bleeding Heart, and Ferns of nearly every kind grown in the Oklahoma landscape, to name just a few. Of course there were Pine, Oak, Redbud, 5 types of Dogwood, Hickory, Chestnut, Maple, Locust, Ash, Cherry, and the near extinct Hemlock.

I count myself fortunate to have spent nearly 8 days in the woods. I received an education about the plants and history as we tread the paths that Cherokee Indians first blazed many years ago. Many of the beautiful landscape plants we enjoy in our yards today were discovered and collected in The Great Appalachian Mountains many years ago.



(R) Randal enjoys Rhododendrons over 15' tall. On the left are one of over 20 Asters (Downey) found in this area.

Our  
Reliable Service  
ALWAYS In Season

Mailing address  
PO Box 824  
Catoosa, Oklahoma 74015

Office 234-3810 Fax 234-2479  
Email: [GreenkeepersI@juno.com](mailto:GreenkeepersI@juno.com)  
[www.GreenkeepersLandscapes.com](http://www.GreenkeepersLandscapes.com)

## GREENKEEPER'S LANDSCAPES

*Pressing On Towards  
Excellence!*

### Referrals

Do you need a dependable, trustworthy referral for a product or service in Tulsa? **Greenkeeper's has been accepted into the world's largest networking organization called Business Network International (BNI).** Call us for a trustworthy referral. We'll tell you more, and there will be more info to come next month!

### November Chores

- Leaf Reduction / Removal
- Fall Tree & Shrub Trimming  
Hollies, Crapemyrtle, Spiraea, Barberry, Privet, Yew, Otto Luyken Laurel, Boxwood, Roses, Abelia, etc.
- Fall Color Plantings such as Tulips, Daffodils and Pansy.
- Landscape Lighting Installs
- Fall Shrub and Tree Planting
- Remember...

**Fall IS for Planting**

# Fall Visit Schedules Change

(Important News You Can Use)

• Every year at this time we begin what we call our "Leaf Reduction / Removal" service visits on your properties.

• Each time we visit your property we will clear the drive, outdoor living areas, walks and porches of leaves and grass, and then mulch the leaves as well as cut the grass.

• At this time we will also *clean out the beds if you have requested this service for every visit.* If you have not requested this service be performed at each visit we will remove the leaves from the beds in the late winter or early spring. Leaves left in your shrub beds will act as an extra insulator from the cold for shrubs and perennials over the winter.

• We have found this system works very well and most of our clients prefer this type of service. By performing your fall leaf reduction every other week, your lawn continues to *get the light it needs* and stays dryer, *reducing potential disease and fungus problems.* This makes it easier to manage the fall workload, and will not cost you any more than if we waited until the end of the leaf-fall to clean the leaves up all at once.

Typical fall visits cost between one and three times the Weekly Visit rate. Essentially this is a regular Weekly Visit price with an additional hourly charge for any fall leaf cleanup time.

Some clients want Weekly Visits instead of every-other-week. If this is your preference, please call our office at 234-3810 right away so that we can arrange our schedule to suit your needs. Otherwise we will perform as detailed above.

**Thanks so much for your business! All of us at Greenkeeper's pray that you and your family will have a blessed Thanksgiving. rdw**